IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the Claims as follows. This listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of Claims in the application:

1 -12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) A processs for monitoring the temperature in a refrigerator, comprising:
forming a unit from a temperature sensitive element and a thermal buffer liquid in a substantially transparent container with said temperature sensitive element being in substantially non-insulated contact with said thermal buffer liquid;

placing the unit container at a site to be monitored inside the refrigerator; and

visually observing said temperature sensitive element as it is in said substantially transparent container to determine if a temperature variable property of said temperature sensitive element indicates that the temperature in the refrigerator is at, below or above a predetermined temperature range.

14. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 13, including selecting a quantity of said thermal buffer liquid such that temperature equalization of said unit and said refrigerator site requires at least about one hour.

15. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 13, including forming said thermal buffer liquid from water.

16. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 13, including forming said temperature dependent variable property of said temperature sensitive element without using any external energy supply.

17. (Currently Amended) A unit for monitoring the temperature in a refrigerator, comprising:

a container having a substantially transparent portion, said container being placeable at a site to be monitored inside the refrigerator at which site cooled air at least partially surrounds said container;

a thermal buffer liquid in said container; and

a temperature sensitive element in thermal contact with said buffer liquid, wherein the temperature sensitive element changes from a first color to a second color when a temperature of the buffer liquid changes from below a first threshold temperature to above the first threshold temperature, wherein the first threshold temperature is above 0°C, said container, when located at the site to be monitored inside the refrigerator, retaining therein said buffer liquid in a manner such that said buffer liquid is not thermally isolated from the cooled air at least partially surrounding said container and is subject to variations in its temperature in correspondence with respective increases and decreases in the cooled air at least partially surrounding said container, and said temperature sensitive element being supported within said container relative to said substantially transparent portion of said container such that a user can visually observe the color ~~a temperature variable property~~ of said temperature sensitive element via said substantially transparent portion of said container to determine if a temperature in the refrigerator at a location external to the unit is ~~at,~~ below[[,]] or above ~~a predetermined~~ the first threshold temperature ~~range~~.

18. (Previously Presented) The unit according to Claim 17, including said container having a capacity for said buffer liquid in the range of about fifty (50) to two hundred and fifty (250) cubic centimeters.

19. (Currently Amended) The unit according to Claim 17, including said temperature sensitive element is located inside said container, wherein the temperature sensitive element ~~and~~ can swim freely in said buffer liquid.

20. Canceled.

21. (Currently Amended) The unit according to Claim 17 ~~20, including said property changes its value in~~ wherein the color of the temperature sensitive element changes from the first color to the second color when the temperature of the buffer liquid changes through a temperature range of about seven (7) and ten (10) degrees Celsius around the first threshold temperature ~~above said temperature limit~~.

22. Canceled.

23. (Currently Amended) The unit according to Claim ~~22, including~~ 17, wherein said temperature sensitive element has a plurality of separate portions with different properties.

24. (Previously Presented) The unit according to Claim 23, including said separate portions with different properties are separate colors with different temperature limits for said property changes.

25. (Withdrawn) The unit according to Claim 19, including said temperature sensitive element is lighter than said buffer liquid and includes at least one of a ballast or tether to a bottom of said container to maintain said temperature sensitive element immersed in said buffer liquid.

26. (Withdrawn) The unit according to Claim 19, including said temperature sensitive element is heavier than said buffer liquid and includes at least one float in said container connected to said temperature sensitive element to maintain said temperature sensitive element immersed in said buffer liquid.

27. (Currently Amended) A temperature sensitive element for a unit for monitoring the temperature in a refrigerator, the unit including a container with a thermal buffer liquid in said container, said temperature sensitive element comprising: a body for thermal contact with the buffer liquid [[;]] wherein said body is immersed to swim freely in said buffer liquid, [[;]] and wherein said body ~~has~~ exhibits different substantially discrete colors ~~values of a property~~ which can be, in an observation event, visually observed to determine if the body is ~~of at least one of~~ above or below a temperature limit to be monitored , said temperature limit being above 0°C, and said body remaining immersed in said buffer liquid during each observation event.

28. Canceled.

29. (Currently Amended) The temperature sensitive element according to Claim ~~28~~27, including said body has a plurality of separate portions, each of which changes color when the temperature of the body changes from below to above a threshold temperature, and wherein each of the plurality of separate portions changes color at a different threshold temperature ~~with different properties~~.

30. Canceled.

31. (Previously Presented) The temperature sensitive element according to Claim 27, including said body is in the form of a fish.

32. (Withdrawn) The temperature sensitive element according to Claim 27, including said body is one of lighter than said buffer liquid and includes at least one of a ballast or tether to a bottom of said container to maintain said body immersed in said buffer liquid and heavier than said buffer liquid and includes at least one float in said container connected to said body to maintain said body immersed in said buffer liquid.

33. (New) The process according to claim 13, wherein the temperature variable property of said temperature sensitive element comprises a color of the temperature sensitive element, and wherein the visually observing step comprises visually observing the color of the temperature sensitive element.

34. (New) The process according to claim 33, wherein the temperature sensitive element changes from a first color to a second color when a temperature of the buffer liquid changes from below a first threshold temperature to above the first threshold temperature, the first threshold temperature being above 0°C.

35. (New) The process according to claim 34, wherein the temperature sensitive element changes from the second color to a third color when the temperature of the buffer liquid changes from below a second threshold temperature to above the second threshold temperature, the second threshold temperature being above the first threshold temperature.

36. (New) The process according to claim 33, wherein the temperature sensitive element comprises a plurality of temperature sensitive elements, wherein each of the plurality of temperature sensitive elements changes color when a temperature of the buffer liquid changes from below a threshold value to above the threshold value, and wherein each temperature sensitive element changes color at a different threshold value.

37. (New) The unit according to claim 17, wherein the temperature sensitive element changes from the second color to a third color when the temperature of the buffer liquid changes from below a second threshold temperature to above the second threshold temperature, the second threshold temperature being above the first threshold temperature.

38. (New) The unit according to claim 17, wherein the temperature sensitive element comprises a plurality of temperature sensitive elements, wherein each of the plurality of temperature sensitive elements changes color when a temperature of the buffer liquid changes from below a threshold value to above the threshold value, and wherein each temperature sensitive element changes color at a different threshold value.